



HISTORIC PRESERVATION **Alliance of Arkansas**

Arkansas Preservation Awards Banquet

January 11
2013

Program Arrangement

Reception

Welcome

John Greer, Jr., AIA, LEED AP / President, Historic Preservation Alliance

Dinner

Awards Program

Master of Ceremonies, Natalie Canerday

Closing Remarks

Vanessa McKuin / Executive Director, Historic Preservation Alliance



Master of Ceremonies
Natalie Canerday

A native of “God’s Country” (a.k.a Russellville, Arkansas), and a graduate of Hendrix College, Natalie has appeared in 32 films, from the big-budget box office favorites October Sky, Walk the Line, and Biloxi Blues, to the no-budget, critically-acclaimed independent films, Sling Blade, One False Move, and Shotgun Stories. She has been honored to work with some of the industry’s best directors, including Mike Nichols, Faye Dunaway, Joe Johnston, James Mangold, Carl Franklin, Harry Thomason, Keith McDaniel, Gary Hawkins, Jeff Nichols and Billy Bob Thornton.

For her performance in One False Move Natalie received a Two-Minute Oscar from Interview Magazine (other recipients that year included Al Pacino for Scent of a Woman and Jim Broadbent for The Crying Game). In 1997 Natalie and the cast of Sling Blade were nominated for Best Performance by Ensemble Cast at the Screen Actors Guild Awards. In 2000 she was invited to participate in Robert Redford’s prestigious Sundance Institute Filmmaker’s Lab along with Sally Field, Jake Gyllenhaal, Michael Shannon, Khandi Alexander and others. Natalie’s alma mater, Hendrix College, presented her with the 2008 Odyssey Award for Lifetime Achievement in Artistic Creativity. She was named to the Advisory Board for the George Lindsey/U.N.A Film Festival in 2009 and for a decade now has been a Friend of both the festival and “Goober.” In 2009 she received the Best Actress Award at the Gatlinburg Screen Fest for her work in the short film Seed of Doubt.

When she’s not filming, Natalie performs in 4 to 6 shows a year at Murry’s Dinner Playhouse in Little Rock, Arkansas, the oldest family-owned dinner theatre west of the Mississippi. She frequently speaks at schools and universities, civic organizations and church groups, and has served for years as a judge for the Little Rock 48 Hour Film Festival and the THEA Foundation Scholarship Auditions.

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Awards Recipients

Parker Westbrook Award for Lifetime Achievement

-AWARD- William B. Worthen, Jr.

Outstanding Achievement in Preservation Education

Kimball Erdman, Department of Landscape Architecture, University of Arkansas at Fayetteville

Outstanding Preservation Reporting in the Media

KARK 4 News; Arkansas Today, "Historical Places" Segments, Statewide

Excellence in Preservation Through Rehabilitation

-AWARD- Clinton Presidential Park Bridge, Little Rock

Excellence in Preservation Through Rehabilitation

-AWARD- deMx Architecture, for Vetro 1925, Fayetteville

Excellence in Preservation Through Rehabilitation

-HONORABLE MENTION- Packet House Grill, Little Rock

Excellence in Preservation Through Restoration

-AWARD- JAMESON Architects PA, for the Old School House, Bentonville

Excellence in Preservation Through Restoration

-HONORABLE MENTION- Communication Arts Institute, Eureka Springs

Excellence in Preservation Through Restoration

-HONORABLE MENTION- MK Distributors, Inc, The DuBocage House, Pine Bluff

Outstanding Achievement in Preservation Advocacy

Carla Hines Coleman and Tamela Tenpenny Lewis, Preservation of African American Cemeteries

Excellence in Personal Projects

Emily Jordan-Robertson, The Postmasters Grill, Camden

Ned Shank Award for Outstanding Preservation Publication

John P. Gill, "Open House: The Arkansas Governor's Mansion and Its Place in History"

Outstanding Work by a Craftsperson

-AWARD- Martin Nichols: The Postmasters Grill, Camden

About the Alliance

As Arkansas's only statewide nonprofit organization focused on preserving Arkansas's architectural and cultural resources, the Alliance has been educating, advocating and assisting preservation efforts across Arkansas since 1981. From educating lawmakers to assisting individual property owners, the Alliance is committed to protecting the many valuable heritage resources that make our state unique. The Alliance's numerous educational programs include the quarterly Arkansas Preservation Digest, the annual Arkansas Preservation Conference and the Ramble tours of historic sites. The Alliance has effectively advocated for public sources of preservation funding and incentives, such as the Real Estate Transfer Tax and the Arkansas Historic Rehabilitation Tax Credit. The Alliance assists local governments and historic downtown communities through administration of the federal Preserve America program in Arkansas and participation in the Arkansas Historic Preservation Program's Main Street Arkansas program—programs which promote historic preservation and heritage tourism as economic development tools. We hope that you will support the Alliance in these efforts by becoming a member and staying informed of our many programs and events which enrich the sustainability and quality of life in Arkansas.

Save the Date

May 1-3, 2013 – Arkansas Preservation Conference, North Little Rock

May 2, 2013 – Preservation Crustaceans Crawfish Boil, St. Joseph's Center, North Little Rock

Connect with us!

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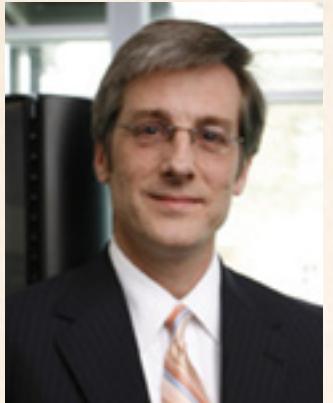
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Awards Selection Committee



John Greer is a Principal at Witsell Evans Rasco Architects in Little Rock, Arkansas leading the firm's Preservation team on Preservation and Renovation projects throughout the state of Arkansas. Notable and award winning preservation projects that John has been involved with include the eStem Public Charter Schools Old Gazette Building and Federal Reserve Bank Building renovations, Lakeport Plantation, Rohwer Cemetery, Old Statehouse Museum, US Bankruptcy Courthouse, the Richard Sheppard Arnold US Courthouse and the Little Rock Visitor Information Center at Curran Hall. In addition to the work that John does in the field of preservation, as a LEED accredited professional, John oversees the firm's opportunities for sustainable design projects in the office. John was honored this year as a recipient of the Quapaw Quarter Association Jimmy Strawn Historic Preservation Award for his vision and leadership in the preservation of Little Rock's historic places. John is proud to have been an HPAA board member since 2010 and to serve as President of the board in 2012.



Jennifer Herron is Principal Architect at Herron Horton Architects in Little Rock, Arkansas. At Herron Horton Architects, she is dedicated to crafting quality spaces to live, learn and grow – whether it's a home for a vital social services program, a local elementary school, a downtown business or a private residence. She is enthusiastic about designing buildings that enrich, inspire and improve lives. Jennifer has been an architectural historic consultant on over twenty historic restoration/renovation projects within the State of Arkansas and has been selected to serve several award juries, including the AIA Philadelphia and the AIA Arkansas, where she served as jury chair.



Laura A. Miller is the superintendent of President William Jefferson Clinton Birthplace Home National Historic Site in Hope, Arkansas. Previously, she served as the historian at Little Rock Central High School National Historic Site. She began her National Park Service Career in March 2001 and also has served as Acting Superintendent both at Little Rock Central High School NHS and at Ulysses S. Grant National Historic Site in St. Louis, Missouri. Prior to her federal service, Miller was Executive Director of the nonprofit Central High Museum, Inc. in Little Rock.

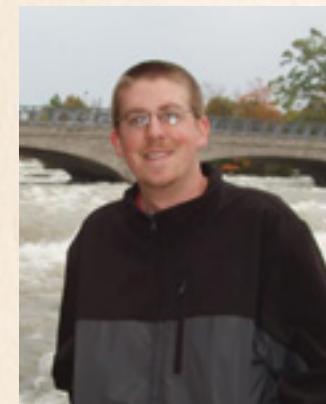
Miller received her master's degree in Public History from the University of Arkansas at Little Rock and, in 2002, the UALR/Ledbetter Monograph Series Press published her thesis entitled, *Fearless: Irene Gaston Samuel and the Life of a Southern Liberal*, a biography of one of the leaders of the Women's Emergency Committee, an organization that was instrumental in bringing an end to the school desegregation crisis in Little Rock. She also has served as an adjunct instructor in the Department of History at UALR, teaching courses in History Museum Interpretation and Administration.

Miller is a past president of the Arkansas Historical Association, the Arkansas Museums Association, the Little Rock Museums Consortium, and the Arkansas Women's History Institute.

Awards Selection Committee



Antoinette Johnson (Toni) began her career by studying interior design at Lambuth University in Jackson, TN and then worked in Atlanta as a young adult. Unfulfilled by working on new construction, she sought out clients with old homes. In order to learn the history of the historic home and their communities, and learn better how to preserve their unique character, she moved to Savannah, Georgia to attend Savannah College of Art and Design where she received a Master of Arts degree in Historic Preservation. An opportunity to work with Jameson Architects, PA brought her to the city of Little Rock, where she met her husband. Shortly afterwards, she began teaching interior design and developed and taught an introduction to historic preservation class at the University of Central Arkansas, where she taught for eight years. Now she does volunteer work in historic preservation including serving as a commissioner on the Little Rock Historic District Commission, is a board member of the Quapaw Quarter Association, and an advisory board member of Main Street Arkansas. She is currently working on her PhD dissertation for the Heritage Studies program at Arkansas State University. She runs her own historic interior design and historic preservation consulting firm, Johnson Consulting, part time and is a full time wife and mom to a 4 and 7 year old.



Travis Ratermann is the Survey Historian for the Arkansas Historic Preservation Program, located in Little Rock, AR. He has a B.S. in Historic Preservation from Southeast Missouri State University and a M.S. in Historic Preservation from Ball State University. As the Survey Historian, Travis is involved with reviewing Residential and Commercial District Surveys from throughout the state, as well as individual local properties that are significant in Arkansas' history. In the past, Travis has surveyed the Historic Roadside markers located in the eastern portion of South Dakota. Travis has also surveyed Historic Route 66 from Chicago to St. Louis through a grant from the Route 66 Corridor Preservation program. Currently, Travis is enjoying resurveying many of the 37,000 properties already surveyed throughout the State of Arkansas.

Parker Westbrook Award For Lifetime Achievement

William B. Worthen, Jr.

This Award recognizes significant individual achievement in historic preservation. It is the Alliance's only award for achievement in preservation over a period of years. The award may be presented to an individual, organization, business, or public agency whose activity may be of local, statewide, or regional importance.



For the past 40 years, William B. Worthen, Jr. has been involved in preserving not only some of the state's oldest buildings, but also the legacy of Louise Loughborough, one of Arkansas's pioneering preservationists and the founder of the Arkansas Territorial Capital Restoration museum in 1939. Bill's work in the 1970s on a key piece of enabling legislation has led to protection of over 360 historic properties statewide through conservation easements. Throughout his career, Bill has helped educate and engage young and old alike with his deep knowledge and appreciation of Arkansas history and material culture.

When Bill began his museum career 40 years ago, he became the professional steward of a historic site with some of Arkansas's oldest buildings. From those early years, he was a self-described "true believer" in the importance of historic preservation. He led the museum to adopt and adapt to changing museum and preservation standards, including updated interpretations of the historic buildings on the site. His professionalization of the museum led to the Historic Arkansas Museum becoming the first history museum in the state to be accredited by the American Association of Museums.

As the custodian of an historic site Bill attended conferences held by the National Trust for Historic Preservation, where he learned about various preservation tools that related to the museum and to the broader community. Bill's mentor, architect and commission chair, Ed Cromwell stressed the importance of the institution's role in the community. Returning from an early National Preservation Conference

filled with excitement about making a difference in Arkansas, Bill worked with State Representative Robert Johnston, National Trust for Historic Preservation lawyer (and El Dorado native) Aubra Anthony and the Quapaw Quarter Association to craft and pass a piece of legislation intended to directly assist preservation projects. Act 882 of 1975 created a mechanism to protect properties with historical or architectural through enforceable preservation easements.

Bill's work with the historic built environment in the context of the Historic Arkansas Museum includes the relocation and restoration of the Plum Bayou farmstead buildings from Scott to the grounds of HAM. Bill also led the effort to reconstruct the William E. Woodruff print shop at its original site on 3rd street. Worthen describes the shop where Woodruff printed the Arkansas Gazette as the "nerve center of the state"—once the State's hub of politics, information and the location of the first public library in Arkansas. Due to incomplete research during the early decades of the museum the original brick structure was torn down, but thanks to years of archeology done by the Arkansas Archeological Survey and to new research, the exact location of the building where Woodruff did business was identified. Under Bill's direction and with funding from the Arkansas Natural and Cultural Resources Council, a team of preservation architects, traditional building artisans and craftspeople reconstructed Woodruff's print shop. The print shop opened in 2011 and serves as a space in which to interpret the history of Woodruff and his legacy.

Bills passion for Arkansas's artisan heritage grew into Arkansas Made, a program consisting of exhibits and publications which he developed with HAM Curator Swannee Bennett. Bill has served as a consultant on material culture many times for preservation projects like Lakeport Plantation.

Bill's passion and expertise in material culture led to HAM's role in preserving one of the state's most important historic houses, the recently-restored Drennen-Scott House in Van Buren. Years before the house's restoration, Worthen and Swannee Bennett identified the intact family furniture collection still in the house and recognized the public value of the assemblage—amassed over two centuries—as too important to break up. The relationship that Bill helped to develop led to collaboration among the University of Arkansas – Fort Smith, the Historic Arkansas Museum and other local partners in preserving the house, conserving the family's collection, interpreting the history and teaching students using the Drennen-Scott House as a classroom.

Bill's professional life is not the only place where he practices preservation. The O'Brien House in which he and his wife Kathy have lived for four decades is a beautiful house built c. 1882 and located in the Governor's Mansion Historic District in Little Rock. Bill and Kathy acquired the house from his father in the early 1970s and restored it to a single family home from a carved-up set of apartments. Bill has served on the board of directors of many organizations, including the Arkansas Historical Association, the Quapaw Quarter Association, the Pulaski County Historical Society and the founding board of the Central High Museum. Bill is also the author of numerous articles and books. He has presented on various elements of Arkansas history and material culture throughout the state and is the recipient of numerous awards recognizing his contributions to Arkansas.

Bill's philosophy that "we carry history one way or the other; if we acknowledge it, honor and learn from it, much the better" sums up the way that the past has directed him in his professional and personal accomplishments. For his dedication to promoting preservation of the physical elements of Arkansas's heritage and his passion for using these elements to teach about Arkansas's rich history, the Historic Preservation Alliance of Arkansas is pleased to recognize Bill Worthen with the 2012 Lifetime Achievement Award.

Outstanding Achievement in Preservation Education

Kimball Erdman

Assistant Professor, UA Dep. of Architecture LARC 5053 Historic Landscape Preservation and the Historic American Landscape Survey for...

Rohwer Relocation Center Memorial Cemetery, Rohwer

The Outstanding Achievement in Preservation Education Award recognizes significant contributions to the cause of historic preservation in Arkansas through education.

Additional project team members:

Derek Lynn, Robyn Denni, PhD, Caitlin Stevens, Stephen Gaulin, Patrick Lower, Jaime Navarro, Ty Richardson, Jonathan Schmitz, Benjamin Stinnett, Danilo Tchoupe



The Historic American Landscape Survey (HALS) conducted for the Rohwer Relocation Center Memorial Cemetery was the core project in the Spring 2012 offering of LARC 5053 Historic Landscape Preservation, a newly developed course offered through the Department of Landscape Architecture at the University of Arkansas.

Though historic preservation as a discipline is well established in governmental agencies, university degree programs, and private firms, the development of guidelines and tools that deal specifically with the documentation, analysis, and treatment of historic landscapes have only recently been developed over the past thirty years.

The new course seeks to introduce students to the field of historic landscape preservation – its history, methods, tools, terminology, and theories – through a series of seminar discussions and a real-world preservation project. With the background provided in the course a student gains a well-rounded understanding of preservation process and, if so motivated, is then positioned take on basic documentation projects and pursue additional training.

Seven landscape architecture students completed the course in Spring 2012. One of the students used the course as the capstone for a minor in historic preservation, while another went on to obtain a summer preservation internship at Yosemite National Park and is now beginning the Master of Historic Preservation degree program (with an emphasis in landscape preservation) at the University of Oregon.

The project targeted for the Spring 2012 semester went through a lengthy selection and preparation process. There are many designed and vernacular landscapes in the region in dire need of documentation and preservation planning. A report completed in 2007 by Arkansas HALS representative Lynn Mittelstaedt Warren identified and ranked seventy at-risk landscapes in Arkansas' four congressional districts. By 2010, when the class project selection process began, none of these landscapes had been documented through the HALS process. The Rohwer Memorial Cemetery, a National Historic Landmark in southeast Arkansas, ranked second among threatened landscapes in the fourth congressional district. The site was included, along with nearby Jerome, on the Historic Preservation Alliance of Arkansas's 2010 list of Arkansas's Most Endangered Places in Arkansas. The cemetery, which is the most intact physical reminder of the former World War II Japanese-American relocation center, was ultimately selected due to a funding opportunity that would allow conservation efforts to be undertaken on the cemetery's monuments. The class project to provide HALS documentation of the site was valued at \$30,000, providing match that was critical to receiving a \$250,000 grant through Japanese American Confinement Sites program (administered through the National Park Service).

The grant proposal, submitted in the spring of 2011 and spearheaded by Dr. Johanna Lewis, University of Arkansas at Little Rock, was successful. To prepare for the class project, the course instructor completed a short-format HALS report of the cemetery during the summer of 2011. This report, along with three others filed that year on other Arkansas cemeteries, became the first HALS documented landscapes in the state. The short-format report was also entered into a national competition, the 2011 HALS Challenge: Celebrating Cultural Landscapes of Diversity, where it was awarded third place. Professor Erdman is being honored not only for leading the crucial documentation project of an endangered historic site, but for his teaching students practical skills and inspiring the next generation of preservationists to further pursue the field.



Outstanding Preservation Reporting in the Media

KARK 4 News: Arkansas Today

“Historical Places” Segments, Statewide

Outstanding Preservation Reporting in the Media is intended for professional television, radio, and newspaper reporters who present accurate, complete, and balanced account of a preservation project, problem, or issue.

Additional project team members:

Greg Dee, KARK Brian Driscoll, Arkansas Historic Preservation Program; Mallory Hardin, KARK; Melissa Whitfield, Deptment of Arkansas Heritage; Lindsay Bryant, KARK; Rachel Silva, AHPP; Mark Christ, AHPP; Jon Holcomb, Mangan Holcomb Parters



In support of Arkansas Heritage Month, KARK 4 News' Arkansas Today anchor and meteorologist Greg Dee broadcast from several historically significant locations throughout central Arkansas. Impressed with audience response to the segment specifically on Lone Star Baptist Church in Redfield, Greg made an astute observation: "What other historically significant places in the state aren't having their stories told?"

With that, the "Historical Places" series was born. During June, July and August—six relatively unknown historic locations in Arkansas were featured on Arkansas Today, KARK's statewide noon show. Locations selected from the Arkansas Historic Preservation Program's list of historic places highlighted that landmark's presence and restoration as a testament to those who care about preserving their community's history. Segments spotlighted the Mount Moriah Lodge (Union County), Smyrna Methodist Church (White County), Crossett Municipal Auditorium (Ashley County), Rector Waterworks (Clay County), Devil's Backbone Battlefield (Sebastian County) and the Carrollton Lodge (Carroll County).

Each segment highlighted the importance of the site; what it meant to the community at the time of its construction, what historic significance the location brought to the community, why the Arkansas Historic Preservation Program approved funding for restoration, and what it is used for today. Pictures of the site both before and after restoration were shown so the audience could better understand how important the Historic Preservation Restoration Grants are to maintaining historically important places

in their communities. Pictures of the building in the era in which it was constructed were also shown, if such photos were available.

Some highlights from the segments included engaging the audience in the location's history. For example, during the segment on Mount Moriah Lodge the broadcast told the story of what is believed to be the oldest Masonic Lodge west of the Mississippi River. Similarly in the segment on Smyrna Methodist Church, viewers learned how this building was being dated through dendrochronology, the study of examining the pattern of the tree rings found in the building components and comparing those to known weather conditions.

The segment on Crossett Municipal Auditorium highlighted the history of the "company town." Viewers watching the segment on Rector Waterworks saw how, over time, this building conformed to the needs of the community by first serving as the municipal waterworks building, then as a jail, and now as a visitor center. Likewise, the segment on Carrollton Lodge highlighted what is left of the once-thriving Carrollton community.

Devil's Backbone Battlefield was the one slightly different segment; unique to this series because it was about a place and not a structure: the Devil's Backbone segment told the story of a Civil War battle on Sept. 1, 1863.

Through the Arkansas Today segments, Arkansans have been introduced to several of the less well-known places across the state that have played an important role in our collective history and culture. Education about these places and the tools available to preserve them helps to foster an appreciation for these sometimes remote, yet very important pieces of Arkansas's history.



Award for
Excellence in Preservation
Through Rehabilitation

Clinton Presidential Park Bridge
Little Rock

Excellence in Preservation through Rehabilitation recognizes projects that retain significant historic fabric but do not attempt to restore a structure to an earlier appearance. Special consideration is given to how new materials and design were integrated with historic fabric to make the project successful.

Additional project team members:

Jon Honeywell, P.E., City of Little Rock; Debbie Shock, William J. Clinton Foundation; Joe Stanley, AIA and Dustin Davis, AIA, Polk Stanley Wilcox Architects, Ltd.; Caradine Companies Architecture; Ecological Design Group; Landscape Associates, Inc.; Mobley Contractors, Inc.; McClelland Consulting Engineers; Kenneth Jones & Associates, Inc.; McLaren Engineering Group; Crafton Tull Sparks



The Clinton Presidential Park Bridge was built in 1889 by the Choctaw, Oklahoma and Gulf Railroad, known historically as the Rock Island bridge, was originally built in 1889. The tracks connected the Choctaw and Memphis Railroad, and led to the Choctaw station, which now houses the Clinton School of Public Service.

In 1904 the Choctaw, Oklahoma and Gulf Railroad acquired the Rock Island railroad. Since then, the railroad and surrounding land has changed hands many times. In 1967 the Arkansas Gazette newspaper bought the station and its surrounding land and passenger service was stopped. The bridge was unused and began to deteriorate.

The Spaghetti Warehouse Restaurant chain remodeled the building in 1990 and used it as a restaurant before the City of Little Rock purchased the building in 1999. In 2002 the William J. Clinton Foundation leased the Choctaw Station from the City and was able to renovate it to create the home of the University of Arkansas Clinton School of Public Service and the Clinton Foundation.

The railroad bridge was originally to be reopened in time for the opening of the Clinton Presidential Center in 2004, but the construction was deferred until 2010. Thanks to a successful public/private collaborative fundraising effort, which included a significant infusion of stimulus dollars from the U. S. Economic Development Administration, full funding was reached. Other significant fundraising partners included the City of Little Rock, the City of North Little Rock, the Clinton Foundation, the State of Arkansas, and numerous private donors.

Construction was completed in the fall of 2011. During the dedication ceremony in September President Bill Clinton said, "The conversion of the historic railroad bridge into a pedestrian pathway will give Central Arkansas a distinctive landmark and will complete one of the best urban trail systems in the country."

The railroad bridge now serves as a major connection for bike and pedestrian facilities in Little Rock and North Little Rock. The path completes one of the last pieces of the Arkansas River Trail, a 14-mile loop through both cities.

The path is 12' wide along the majority of the bridge's length across the Arkansas River with a portion inside the old lift span expanding to a 16'-6" width with views both up and down the river.

The challenge to create a design slope not to exceed 1:20 in order to allow ADA access was accomplished through continuous curved ramps, designed at a gentle slope through the original support structure. In addition to ADA compliance the ramps also permit cyclists to ride the full length of the bridge without having to dismount to climb stairs.

The city-owned bridge and surrounding park are the result of a tremendous joint-effort. The Bridge, which connects our past and our present, has become a popular functioning destination for Arkansans and visitors alike.

- Award -

Excellence in Preservation Through Rehabilitation

Tim Maddox, AIA, deMx Architecture

Vetro 1925, Fayetteville

Excellence in Preservation through Rehabilitation recognizes projects that retain significant historic fabric but do not attempt to restore a structure to an earlier appearance. Special consideration is given to how new materials and design were integrated with historic fabric to make the project successful.

Additional project team members:

Owners: Angelo Amabile & Marcia Harris; Dr. Jamie Spann



Inside the historic building envelope of the 1925 Cravens building Tim Maddox of deMx Architecture Inc has created a fresh restaurant space that balances old and new. Influenced by Italian architectural precedents, Vetro 1925 is a modern Italian restaurant built within, and respecting an eighty-seven year old historic building.

Located east of the historic Downtown Fayetteville Square, Vetro 1925 respects the historic nature of its shell while utilizing Italian precedents to create a new modern restaurant. The design explores this contrast through old versus new, light versus dark, and wood versus glass.

An Italian-inspired glass storefront system modernizes the original building façade while maintaining historic features. The new storefront takes cues from the folding glass façade of the Florence train station. A minimal steel and glass structure opens the facade up invitingly on street level, leaving the original brick façade and craftsman-style clerestory windows intact.



The interior space of the west side of the Cravens building has been adapted to accommodate a modern restaurant kitchen, dining room and bar on street level and private group dining space on the lower level. Inside the restaurant, the contrast between old and new, light and dark, wood and glass becomes clear. The rehabilitation of original building elements, such as the exposed brick walls and refinished oak floors, take on darker tones. At the transition from the bar to the dining area, the oak floor rises up to encase a steel wine rack and create a threshold between spaces. In contrast, the newer elements such as the white-painted walls and ceiling, the clear finished white oak millwork, and the glass ribbon take on lighter tones. The highlight of the design is the illuminated glass ribbon that creates the bar counter and continuously folds its way up and down to the entryway and out the front canopy. The hallway behind the dining room and kitchen takes you by a historic safe door, left in place from the building's previous tenants.

Overall, the redesign of Vetro 1925 is an adaptive reuse that blends the remaining historic fabric with new design that creates a beautiful and comfortable space. For the successful blend of the historic and the new, Tim Maddox, architect with deMx architecture is recognized with an award for Excellence in Preservation through Rehabilitation.

- Honorable Mention -
**Excellence in Preservation
Through Rehabilitation**

Packet House Grill
Little Rock

Eligible projects retain significant historic fabric but do not attempt to restore a structure to an earlier appearance. Nominations in this category should focus on how new materials and design were integrated with historic fabric to make the project successful.

Additional project team members:

Alessi Keyes Construction, Odom Peckham Architects, Lindsey Kennedy Designs, Arnold & Blevins Electric Company, Middleton Heating & Air, Harrell Mechanical, Krebs Brothers, A & A Painting, Southern Floors & Blinds, C.R. Brown, Amber Jones Consulting



The McDonald-Wait-Newton House, commonly known as the Packet House was built in 1869 as the home of Senator Alexander McDonald. In the mid 1940s the house was converted to apartments, and by the 1970s it had changed use again, this time being converted into commercial space. In the early 1980s the building was remodeled to be used as a restaurant. After several years as a restaurant, the Packet House served as office space and then stood vacant for many years. In 2010, the Packet House was listed on the Historic Preservation Alliance of Arkansas's list of Most Endangered Places before it was purchased by Betty Richards.

The rehabilitation of the Packet house began with the replacing of rotten exterior wood trim, and damaged wood window sashes on the original building. All of this work was done to match the existing appearance of the building. A tree which was growing too close to the building and interfering with the



foundation of the original building was removed. The damaged structure of the addition on the north-east corner of the building was reconstructed utilizing the existing stained glass windows. All of the rotten wood siding and trim on the exterior was replaced to match the original appearance. The addition on the south east of the building was re-roofed and all rotten wood trim replaced to match the existing materials. Mortar joints which had been eroded were tuck pointed and the brick exterior was completely repainted.

The kitchen addition on the west of the building received a complete overhaul inside. All new equipment was installed for food preparation. Damage to the plaster on the interior of the building was repaired in preparation for the repainting of the entire interior. The historic staircase in the front hall was repaired and replica balusters were installed where originals were missing. The existing public restrooms were reworked to meet ADA standards. A new elevator was also added to the building to provide ADA complaint access to all three floors. Walls, which had subdivided one of the rooms on the first floor of the original building were removed to create open dining space. Upstairs rooms were adapted to accommodate private dining rooms as well as meeting and office space.

The team worked hard to preserve the original historic fabric of the building while providing the owner with a building that would meet the needs of a dynamic restaurant experience. The group aimed to gently repair a decade of neglect and made small interior changes to conform to current building codes. Through the work of the owner and the project team, the Packet House was transformed from a poorly maintained endangered building to a vibrant restaurant where Arkansans can enjoy fine-dining and a part of history. The Packet House project team and owners are commended for once again giving life to a Little Rock landmark.

- Award -

Excellence in Preservation Through Restoration

JAMESON Architects PA

The Old School House, Bentonville

Excellence in Preservation through Restoration recognizes projects in which a primary goal was returning a structure to a documented earlier appearance. The jury considers efforts to retain the integrity of the structure and the process involved in achieving the result, including research, and solutions chosen to problems presented by modern mechanical intrusion, meeting code requirements, etc.

Additional project team members:

The Peel Compton Foundation; Doug Bryant, WEI Property Management; Jess Eoff, Dynamic Construction



The first Bentonville schoolhouse was a log structure built in 1841 located at present-day 305 Northwest Second Street. In 1866 after the destruction of the original schoolhouse during the Civil War, a second schoolhouse was built on the same lot. Throughout the nineteenth century additions were made including a Victorian front porch which was later remodeled in the craftsman style.

In 2009 – 2010 the City of Bentonville was expanding parking adjacent the bustling Courthouse Square. The Old School House was in the way and was in danger of demolition. The Peel Compton Foundation retained Jameson Architects to conduct further investigations. The initial findings indicated the bones of the structure seemed to date from the late 1860s or early 1870s.

The Peel Compton Foundation purchased the house and lot from the city and the parking lot was redesigned around the structure. The decision was made to rehabilitate it as offices for the Benton County Historical Society.

Jameson Architects created design drawings to return the structure back to what it might have looked like in the late 1870s. The Victorian/Craftsman front porch, obviously not belonging to the original period of the schoolhouse, was removed. Exposure of the original front of the brick structure revealed definitive clues as to the size and detailing of the original one story porch and missing wood trim. The wood framed structure in the rear was removed due to extreme deterioration of the foundation and floor framing, but was accurately documented for reconstruction. Although it was initially thought that the wood structure was a later addition to the brick front, demolition revealed that the wooden structure was actually the “original” schoolhouse, with the brick structure built against the front façade. This was clearly the project’s most definitive “ah ha” moment.

Utilizing paint lines and other construction evidence, a new front porch was rebuilt to the front of the brick structure. Although the porch details are conjectural, the form of the recreated porch is accurate, and accommodates the original upstairs doorway’s access to the porch roof.

New, historically accurate replacement windows and four panel, wood doors were installed in the existing openings. During selective removal, the wood framing of the original schoolhouse was investigated to determine original opening locations, and these were incorporated into the reconstruction. Unfortunately, the extremely hard stucco applied over the soft historic masonry proved too damaging to remove, and was thus painted. Where original brick had been covered by upper level addition and had not received stucco, it was repaired and exposed. Wood shingles were found in the attic, thus fire retardant cedar shingles were chosen for roofing.

After its initial educational use, the Old School House is once again teaching the public as the new home of the Benton County Historical Society. For vision, hard work, and financial commitment Jameson Architects are recognized for rehabilitation of the Old School House.



- Honorable Mention -

Excellence in Preservation Through Restoration

Communication Arts Institute
Eureka Springs

Excellence in Preservation through Restoration recognizes projects in which a primary goal was returning a structure to a documented earlier appearance. The jury considers efforts to retain the integrity of the structure and the process involved in achieving the result, including research, and solutions chosen to problems presented by modern mechanical intrusion, meeting code requirements, etc.

Additional project team members:

Sandy Martin, Communication Arts Institute; Marty and Elise Roenigk; Heriberto Brito; Christopher East; Sam Utter



In 1947, Edna Deiley moved to Eureka Springs from the Chicago area. She and her parents were responsible for building Tall Pines, a log cabin motor court on U.S. Highway 62, now listed on the National Register of Historic Places. After it sold, they constructed two houses side by side on Spring Street in 1951. The houses were “the talk of the town,” because new construction had not been seen for nearly forty years.

The Wright-inspired Usonian style house featured horizontal lines and a block foundation that cut into the hill below. The home was vacant for several years after Mrs. Deiley’s death in 1998. In 2002, when large cracks appeared in the block foundation, the city hired an engineer who declared the building uninhabitable.

The house next door had become the residence of the Writers Colony at Dairy Hollow (WCDH), a non-profit organization offering writers’ residencies. The WCDH expanded to become the Communication Arts Institute (CAI) and benefactors Marty and Elise Roenigk purchased 505 Spring Street for them. Thanks to a grant from the Arkansas Historic Preservation Program the CAI hired a mid-century modern architecture expert Heriberto Brito, to oversee rehabilitation. Repairing the foundation was a painstaking process involving an addition to the rear left corner to provide a place for a support column inside the basement. The building was slowly leveled by raising steel beams on “Jenga-game” type columns. Then foundation blocks were replaced. The basement floor was removed, leveled and re-poured. With the home secure, more exterior work was done: new roof, windows repaired or replaced, brick cleaned, trim repainted.

In 2007 the building was finally secured. CAI received a grant from the Department of Arkansas Heritage for interior rehabilitation and to create writers’ suites. Architect Christopher East developed a floor plan honoring the Usonian style of light, nature and natural fabric of the original design. Five peaceful writer suites were created - each with a private bath, a writing space plus sleeping and relaxing areas. Two suites have an outside deck, and there are two large common decks for all to share.

Under the direction of CAI Chairman Sandy Martin, contractor Sam Utter repurposed almost all original fabric that was removed for this adaptive re-use. Every bathroom cabinet has been handcrafted from the home’s original pine in period style. The original wood beams in the lower level remain exposed. Original wood jalousie windows remain in two upstairs bedrooms.

Furnishings throughout the home are authentic mid-century, with a 1952 spike atomic clock permanently fixed to 5:05 adding a whimsical touch. A mid-century toned paint palette was used throughout. 505 Spring Street still reflects the best of the mid-century design elements – lots of natural light against warm wood and clean, open spaces. It is still the only example of Usonian ideals in Eureka Springs. For their vision, hard work, and financial commitment the Communication Arts Institute is recognized for rehabilitation and resurrection of the historic 505 Spring Street.

- Honorable Mention -

Excellence in Preservation Through Restoration

MK Distributors, Inc.

DuBocage House, Pine Bluff

Excellence in Preservation through Restoration recognizes projects in which a primary goal was returning a structure to a documented earlier appearance. The jury considers efforts to retain the integrity of the structure and the process involved in achieving the result, including research, and solutions chosen to problems presented by modern mechanical intrusion, meeting code requirements, etc.

Additional project team members:

Fred Reed, AIA; Reed Architectural Firm; Clark Contractors, LLC; Brown Millwork;
Mike Demoss Painting; Dixie Pitillo, Shepherd's Interior Design; Goodbar's Antique Lamp Shop



Judge Joseph W. Bocage, a prominent pioneer settler of Pine Bluff, served as an attorney, county judge, and mayor in his lifetime. In 1866 he built The DuBocage House in the Greek Revival style. The structure was nominated and listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1977.

In 1966 the Bocage family transferred the house to the Optimist Club. In 2011, MK Distributors, Inc., the Pine Bluff Budweiser distributorship located across the street purchased the property. In December 2011 the company began rehabilitation of the house for executive office space as well as a social event space.

The Optimists had added an annex in the rear for meeting space and a connecting structure from it to the house which contained a kitchen. They also added a metal storage building adjacent to the annex. After consideration, the annex and connecting structure were removed. It was decided to retain the storage building to facilitate outdoor barbecues on the property. Wood siding and a pitched shingle roof were added to the storage shed to coordinate with the house. A patio was installed linking the storage building and the new rear parking to the house.

Exterior work on the house was extensive. All rotten or missing siding was replaced with cypress siding milled to match. The original windows were removed and reinstalled after any damaged or missing muntins were replaced with matching cypress.

Front columns were constructed measuring approximately 22' tall. Internal steel tube columns were added inside the columns for structural support. The columns were then reassembled with original wood. All existing shutters were re-used.

The front porch and balcony were restored using existing pieces. New pieces were also milled to match, and the balcony was restructured for safe use. The house was reroofed with appropriately styled shingles and a flat metal roof was added over the back porch for dry entry to the kitchen and break room.

Inside work was completed, as well. Additional piers and shoring were added to stabilize the floors. Masonry ground apron was reconstructed to prevent under house pests. Front porch lighting was replaced and site pole lighting added for security. Two ADA compliant restrooms were added on the first floor reworking space from two substandard bathrooms and an exterior door to back porch. Fixtures and ceramic tile complementary to the house were also added.

To install modern electrical, data and cable systems in the main rooms, it was necessary to remove the deteriorated plaster. This was done without removing door frames, base or ceiling moldings. Batt insulation was added in walls and attic. New gypsum board was textured to match the original plaster remaining in central hall with hanging staircase, whose balusters were cleaned and varnished.

A ground floor rear room was converted to a professional kitchen to support catering and provide a break and copy room. Cabinets, granite counters, colors, fixtures & lights were chosen to complement house.

For the vision, hard work, and financial commitment to revive a Pine Bluff landmark, MK Distributors, Inc. is recognized for rehabilitation of the DuBocage house.

Outstanding Achievement in Preservation Advocacy

Carla Hines Coleman and Tamela Tenpenny Lewis

Preservation of African American Cemeteries, Statewide

The award for Outstanding Achievement in Preservation Advocacy recognizes individuals, publications, organizations, etc. that have had a strong impact on preservation through advocacy efforts and have made a notable contribution to championing the cause of preservation.



From Silent Storytellers

PAAC has achieved success through regional workshops, a quarterly newsletter, an annual preservation conference, and multiple networking opportunities for members of the organization. In 2009 the organization established the Jr. Preservation Society at Little Rock's Mart Luther King Elementary East Lab. These milestones have been achieved in large part due to the enthusiasm and efforts of Carla Hines Coleman and Tamela Tenpenny Lewis.

PAAC's main goal is to be a leading organization among cemetery associations, preservation groups, cemetery care-takers, or individuals that are concerned with documenting and preserving their ancestral burial grounds. PAAC also strives to instruct and teach the humanities the valuable information necessary for the education and preparation of cemetery restoration, documentation and preservation. Carla and Tamela are recognized for their advocacy efforts and tireless work to educate children and adults about the importance of historic cemeteries.



From Silent Storytellers

In January 2003 cousins Tamela Tenpenny-Lewis and Carla Coleman, along with six other concerned citizens founded Preservation of African American Cemeteries, Inc. (PAAC) to serve as a leader in the preservation of undocumented African American cemeteries. Since 2003, the organization has grown to become, a resource for preservation societies, cemetery associations, and family caretakers around the state.

Over the years Tamela and Carla have worked endlessly to spread the word about preserving African American cemeteries in Arkansas. They have worked closely with elementary schools, and in 2008 the two participated in a film sponsored by the Arkansas Humanities Council entitled Buried Treasures: The Bold Pilgrims of Conway County. In 2009 they were cast in another documentary about cemetery preservation: Silent Storytellers. Both were featured on the Arkansas Educational Television Network.

Michelle Hood, president of the Afro-American Historical & Genealogical Society, Inc. Arkansas Chapter said, "Both Tamela and Carla have made notable contributions to the cause of preserving the history of African American communities in the state of Arkansas. [...] Both are true advocates of preserving the African American history in Arkansas; their efforts and contributions will continue to

Excellence in Personal Projects

Emily Jordan-Robertson

Postmasters Grill, Camden

Excellence in Personal Projects recognizes the achievement of individuals in preserving, rehabilitating, or restoring structures for their own use. At the time of nomination, the project should be substantially complete. Nominations for this award should focus on the completed project, the process involved, and the owner/user's specific efforts and contributions to the project.

Additional project team members:

WER Architects/Planners; Martin Nichols, Martin Nichols Plastering, Inc.; Arkansas Granite & More



Built from 1895-96, the two story old Camden post office is styled in the Richardsonian Romanesque, a style rarely seen in small towns despite its popularity in the 1890s.

Exhibited through the solid masonry pressed brick, arched window and door apertures, the style highlights attention to detail. Decorative iron grillwork over the arched main entrance and impressive oriel windows are also evidence of this.

The original interior was designed with elegance. It boasts of a marble floor in the lobby and quarter sawn oak in most of the lobby woodwork. Ornamental crown molding decorates large portions of the downstairs ceiling. Limited alterations though the years have left these elements intact.

In 1963 a new, large Post Office was erected two blocks west. The Old Post Office faced the prospect of demolition to serve as a parking lot. However, in 1977 the building was listed on the National Register of Historic Places and was purchased at auction by an owner who valued the historic building.

However, after hosting downtown retail and office space for awhile, the owners, discouraged by a declining downtown market, sought a buyer. For several years the stately old structure sat vacant again—an empty shell in the heart of Camden's city center. It was these circumstances that attracted the creative vision of Emily Jordan-Robertson.

Recognizing the nexus between downtown vitality and residential living, she had recently remodeled two major downtown buildings, converting vacant second stories into upscale apartments. A significant cluster of residents now inhabit the city center. Sensing the opportunity to provide amenities for that group while further magnetizing downtown, Jordan-Robertson purchased the Old Post Office, planning to create a "destination" for conviviality, fine dining, and entertainment. That dream—crystallizing as "the Postmasters Grill"—combines an upscale restaurant on the main floor, a downstairs bar, and sometime use of a patio for outdoor service, music and special events. After approval of plans to qualify for the Federal Historic Rehabilitation Tax Credit, work began in 2010 and was completed in early 2012.

As a result of Emily Jordan-Robertson's visionary commitment, the Old Camden Post Office appears with striking integrity much as it did more than a century ago. It is now a lively destination, no longer for the postal patrons of days gone by, but for an ample staff of employees and a sturdy restaurant clientele of Camden residents and frequent out-of-town visitors. In a time when downtown investment in many locations can be challenging and is especially so in Camden's difficult recent economy, the personal investment of Emily Jordan-Robertson is a long term, visionary, act of faith. It is a personal commitment deserving of recognition.

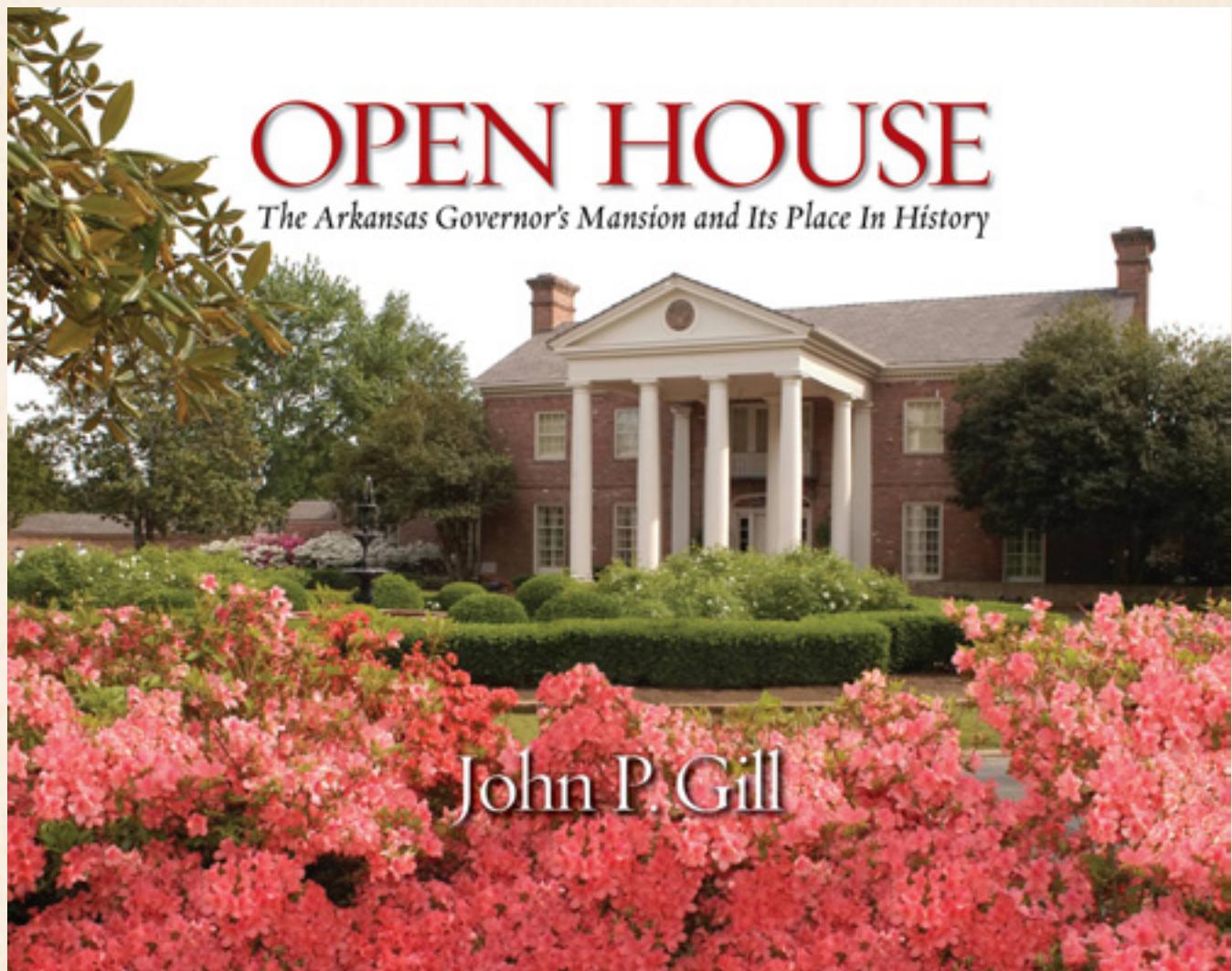


Ned Shank Award for Outstanding Preservation Publication

John P. Gill

Open House: The Arkansas Governor's Mansion and Its Place in History

This award combines excellence in writing with preservation achievement. It recognizes authors, editors, and publishers who write or create books or significant journal articles about preservation in Arkansas. Publications may document a particular preservation project, profile a person or group active in preservation, or discuss general preservation themes and issues.



In its six decades of existence, the Arkansas Governor's Mansion, which sits in the middle of Center Street near downtown, has played a prominent role in Arkansas history and has on occasion garnered national attention.

Now, much of that history is available in a book by Little Rock attorney and historian John P. Gill. In *Open House: The Arkansas Governor's Mansion and Its Place in History*, the doors of the mansion open to share the stories of those who have lived there and reveal how the building has changed throughout the years.

The building has had many important inhabitants and has served as a backdrop for history in the making. Three occupants of the mansion have been serious contenders for the office of president of the United States, and three U.S. senators lived first in the Governor's Mansion. It also served as a temporary presidential office after Bill Clinton was elected president of the United States. During much of 1957, the Governor's Mansion was the headquarters for a pivotal event in the birth of live television journalism as Central High School was embroiled in an integration crisis of national importance during the administration of Orval Faubus, who served six consecutive terms as governor.

Open House chronicles the lighter moments for the mansion, too. During the administration of Mike Huckabee (1996-2007), Little Rock drew national attention when the family lived in a large mobile home on the mansion grounds while the mansion itself was undergoing renovation. During an interview with First Lady Janet Huckabee on the mansion grounds, a national television crew filmed as the family dog crawled out from under the "trailer."

Phillip McMath, now a Little Rock attorney, has fond memories of life at the mansion during the administration of his father, Sid McMath (1949-1953). McMath remembers that, as a boy, he and a friend strung a rope across the front gate of the mansion and demanded a dime from the drivers of each of the cars coming onto the grounds. "We didn't make more than a buck for it before a reporter for the Arkansas Gazette showed up and put us out of business," McMath said.

With numerous photos and anecdotes from those who lived in the mansion, *Open House* is a valuable addition to any Arkansas history collection. "Gill's labors combine dogged documentary research with dozens of oral histories in an exemplary way," said Morris S. Arnold, United States circuit judge. "The result is a highly readable and lively account of an important Arkansas landmark."



- Award -

Excellence in Preservation Through Restoration

Martin Nichols

For the Postmasters Grill, Camden

This Award recognizes significant individual achievement in historic preservation. It is the Alliance's only award for achievement in preservation over a period of years. The award may be presented to an individual, organization, business, or public agency whose activity may be of local, statewide, or regional importance.

Additional project team members:

Martin Nichols Plastering, Inc.; Arkansas Granite & More



Decorative plaster is a key historic feature of the ornately decorated halls and rooms of the Old Post Office building and its restoration was very important to the owner, Emily Jordan-Robertson.

Martin Nichols of Martin Nichols Plastering, Inc. works out of Greenbrier. He and Postmasters Grill owner Emily Jordon-Robertson have worked on many projects together over the past ten years, but never one quite like the c. 1895 Old Camden Post Office.



In some areas of the building, the decorative plaster were completely missing—removed by years of water damage or during previous renovations. Thankfully, in other areas, the decorative plaster was completely intact. Mr. Nichols was able to make silicon molds of the original plaster work and use them to replicate the missing areas. Jordan-Robertson says of Martin Nichols, “He was willing to go the extra mile to make the old and new blend seamlessly.” Preparing the plaster the traditional way meant spending a lot of additional time on the project. The time and work was worth it, thought. In her nomination of Mr. Nichols, Jordon-Robinson stated that “Martin’s plaster work made this project. Without his fine craftsmanship, the project just wouldn’t be the same.”

For his work in preserving a key historic characteristic of the Old Camden Post Office using traditional techniques to restore and recreate historically appropriate and features, Martin Nichols is commended.

